



Inside Illinois DNR

September 2020 • Volume 8, Number 9

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IDNR Careers

IDNR offers a wide array of professional careers in the conservation and natural resource arena. **Click here** to see the job openings available.

www2.illinois.gov/dnr

Message from Director Colleen Callahan



September marks the beginning of the fall hunting seasons in Illinois, the busiest time of year for hunters to enjoy their time outdoors.

As I wrote recently in the new *Illinois Digest of Hunting and Trapping Regulations*, I want to thank the hunters, trappers, landowners, and other citizens who enjoy outdoor recreation opportunities in Illinois for your support and encouragement in recent months. The coronavirus pandemic has presented challenges to all of us. And we thank you for your patience while we've navigated through the unexpected trials. We are grateful for the grace and tolerance you have displayed as we have implemented a host of efforts intended to protect the health and ensure the safety of the public we serve.

Now, I want to encourage hunters and trappers to pick up a copy during your next visit to one of our DNR Direct license and permit vendor locations, or order a free copy online through the IDNR website.

The digest includes hunting and trapping season dates, possession limits, hunting zone boundaries, statewide hunting regulations, and license and permit information. New or amended regulations for 2020-2021 are highlighted.

From time to time, regulations need to be updated after the publication of the digest, as was the case with the recent health-related adjustments regarding dove hunting at IDNR sites. Find those details on the IDNR website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/news/Pages/IDNR-Announces-Changes-to-Dove-Hunting-at-State-Sites-.aspx>.

Those of you who hunt and trap are our most important partners in managing wildlife in Illinois. You are also key partners in our efforts to recruit new hunters and trappers, and to reactivate those who haven't enjoyed those activities in recent years. As part of those efforts, please consider taking a young person or an adult friend hunting with you this season.

Once again, our sincere thanks for your support as we work through trying times, and we all play our parts in managing Illinois wildlife and enjoying all of the natural wonders of our state.

Best wishes for a safe and successful season.

Colleen Callahan

Director, Illinois Department of Natural Resources

DNR in the News

How Fish React to
Changing Water Conditions

Lake Co. News-Sun:
Lake County buzzing about
endangered bee discovery

Moline Dispatch:
Local hunter safety
courses canceled

Changes for the Upcoming
Waterfowl Seasons

Piping Plovers

Statewide Offices

Springfield, IL
217-782-6302

Bartlett, IL
847-608-3100

Benton, IL
618-435-8138

Highlights



Changes to Dove Hunting at IDNR Sites

The IDNR announced changes to dove hunting procedures at state sites due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The changes will provide greater protection to both the hunting public and site staff during the season.

[For more information.](#)



Illinois Dove Season

In order to hunt dove in Illinois, a person needs to have a valid hunting license, a state habitat stamp and you must be registered with HIP. You can purchase a license and the state habitat stamp online through DNR Direct, over the counter from a license vendor, or by calling 1-888-673-7648. Hunting devices, ammunition and garment requirements can be found in the Digest of Hunting and

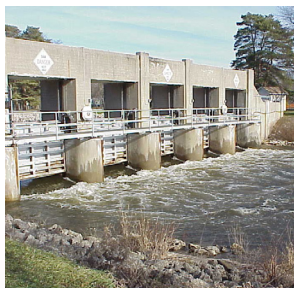
Trapping Regulations. Ammunition size and type is very important when hunting dove in Illinois, especially on public areas. [For more information.](#)



ICF Launches Free Outdoor Illinois App

The Illinois Conservation Foundation (ICF) introduced a new app tailored to Illinois' outdoorsmen and women. The Outdoor Illinois app is free and available for both iPhone and Android systems on the App Store and Google Play.

[For more information.](#)



Stratton Lock to Close September 14

The IDNR announced the lock facility at Stratton Lock and Dam on the Fox River in McHenry Co. will close Sept. 14 for the remainder of the navigation season due to ongoing construction. [For more information.](#)



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2020 IL Outdoor Hall of Fame Recipients

Congratulations!

Mike Conlin
of Auburn, IL

Jim Smith
of Morris, IL

Bob Wilkins
of Shorewood, IL.

The ICF will be honoring them along with the 2019 recipients Diane and Doug Oberhelman, April 21, 2021 at the Union League Club, Chicago.

www.ilconservation.org/gala



Download through the
App Store or Google Play
on iPhone or Android.

Highlights



Checklist of Illinois Endangered and Threatened Animals and Plants

The Illinois 2020 endangered and threatened animals and plants list has been released. The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board reviews and revises the Illinois List of Endangered and Threatened Species as warranted and no less often than every five years.

[For more information.](#)



Upcoming WSRC Shooting, Field Trial Events Canceled

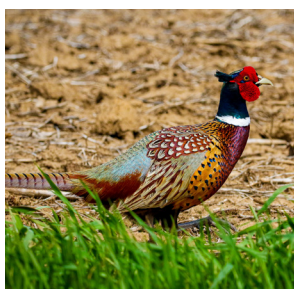
The IDNR announced the cancellation of a number of World Shooting and Recreational Complex (WSRC) shooting and field trial events scheduled for September and October due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

[For more information.](#)



2020 Fort Massac Encampment Canceled

The IDNR announced the 2020 Fort Massac Encampment, slated for Oct. 17-18 at Fort Massac State Park, has been canceled due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The Encampment is one of southern Illinois' most treasured and popular fall festivals and the IDNR is looking forward to next year's event, hoping to make it better than ever. [For more information.](#)



Controlled Pheasant Hunting

Controlled pheasant hunting opportunities will be available at 18 IDNR sites during the 2020-21 hunting season. Dates and permit reservation information are available online. Sixteen of the sites are operated by the IDNR, while two sites are operated by concessionaire T. Miller, Inc.

[For more information.](#)

Highlights



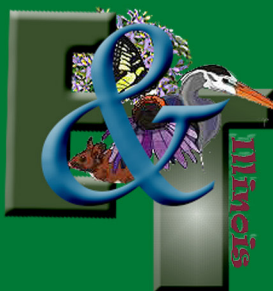
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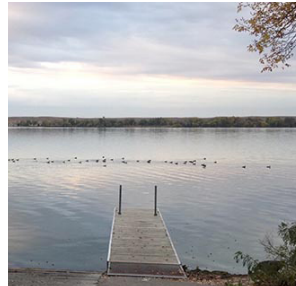


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Powerton Lake SFWA Closed for Levee Repairs until September 15

Powerton Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area near Pekin is closed until Sept. 15 while maintenance repairs are made on the Powerton Lake levee. Powerton Lake is the cooling lake for the NRG Powerton Generating Station and NRG is coordinating the project. [For more information.](#)



Boat Access Program

The IDNR announced applications are now being accepted for grants through the Boat Access Area Development grant program. The deadline to apply is Oct. 2, 2020. The Boat Access program is a state-financed grant program that provides funding assistance to local government agencies for acquisition and/or development of land for public boat and canoe access areas in Illinois. It is funded through a percentage of the state's marine motor fuel tax and registration fees.

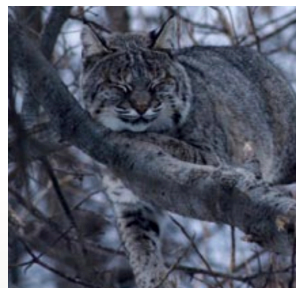
[For more information.](#)



Local Food Relief Effort Offers Opportunity to Feed the Hungry, Boost Small Businesses

Working to help local families in need while also offering food options to local businesses and food pantries, the IDNR partnered with Chicago organizations, State Rep. Sonya Harper and State Sen. Mattie Hunter to host a cooking demonstration, tasting event and food relief effort in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood last month.

[For more information.](#)



Bobcat Permit Lottery

Bobcat permit applications are available online Sept. 1 - 30, 2020. Lottery results will be available in mid-October. Hunters and trappers must possess a Bobcat Hunting and Trapping Permit BEFORE taking or attempting to harvest a bobcat. [For more information.](#)

Highlights



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Division Water Resource Management

The IDNR Division of Water Resource Management issues permits for work in and along the rivers, lakes and streams of the state, for activities in and along the public waters, including Lake Michigan, and for the construction and maintenance of dams. [For more information.](#)



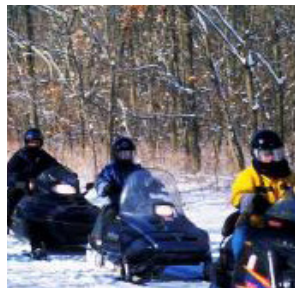
I Fish Illinois

The I Fish Illinois website is a great resource for information on places to fish, family fishing, fishing programs, conservation angling, fishing licenses, fish stocking and fish hatcheries, and so much more. [For more information.](#)



Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery Has Reopened

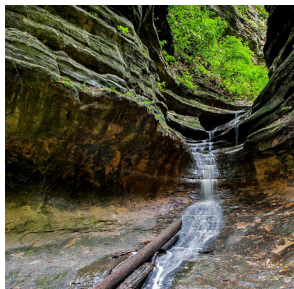
After a temporary closure due to COVID-19, the Illinois State Museum Lockport Gallery has reopened. The Lockport Gallery will operate Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Advanced registration for entry is strongly encouraged. Visitors can access registration instructions on the ISM website at www.illinoisstatemuseum.org. Groups are limited to 10 persons and must register in advance to visit the gallery. [For more information.](#)



IDNR Accepting Applications for Snowmobile Trail Establishment Grant Program

The IDNR is accepting applications for grants through the Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund (STEF) grant program. The deadline to apply is Oct. 1, 2020. [For more information.](#)

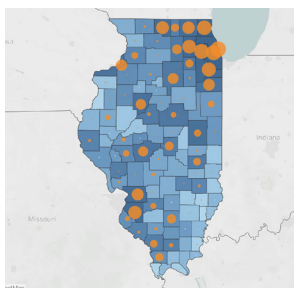
Highlights



Starved Rock State Park Reopens Some Trails Following Severe Weather Matthiessen State Park remains closed

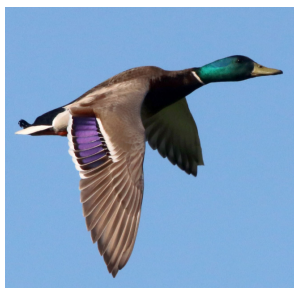
Effective Aug. 26, Starved Rock State Park reopened a number of trails that were closed due to extensive damage done during severe weather Aug. 10. Some additional Starved Rock trails will remain closed while cleanup work continues, and all of nearby Matthiessen State Park will

remain closed until further notice. [For more information.](#)



Illinois Department of Public Health Launches Travel Map

The Illinois Dept. of Public Health has launched its new COVID-19 travel map to help inform residents of potential risks associated with traveling during the pandemic. The map indicates countries and U.S. states with increased risk of COVID-19 based on case rates. [For more information.](#)



Illinois Waterfowl Hunting Updates

The IDNR is reminding waterfowl hunters of key dates and other information regarding the 2020-2021 waterfowl seasons and beyond.

[For more information.](#)



Illinois Wildland Fire Crew Assists in Western U.S. Fire Fight

A multi-agency wildland fire crew from Illinois recently returned from Colorado where they helped battle the more than 139,000-acre Pine Gulch Fire, the largest in Colorado history. Each year, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Division of Forest Resources assembles a team of highly trained firefighters to assist

with wildfires in other states. [For more information.](#)



State of Illinois
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Equal opportunity to participate in programs of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and those funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other agencies is available to all individuals regardless of race, sex, national origin, disability, age, religion or other non-merit factors. If you believe you have been discriminated against, contact the funding source's civil rights office and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, IDNR, One Natural Resources Way, Springfield, IL 62702-1271; 217/785-0067; TTY 217/782-9175.

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